

Letters to the Editor

The Elizabethan

SIR.—I shall not spare the blushes of Atticus when I say that his description of the ballistic experiments of Sir Andrew Clark was simply delightful. It was such a word picture that one could almost hear the "Bang!" and the "Bong!"

A. C. Sarre.

St. Saviour, Jersey.

SIR.—I am afraid Atticus is a century or so out on the pistols used by Sir Andrew Clark, Q.C. The percussion cap dates from about 1820; the flintlock from about 1640, so the weapons were nineteenth and seventeenth century!

If Sir Andrew would like to fire an even earlier piece I can lend him a fifteenth-century piece of about 1480!

Hugh B. C. Pollard

(Major, ret'd.).

Savile Club.

[The British Museum agrees with Major Pollard's expertise, as does now the otherwise authoritative informant who pleads that his mind has never been able to relate dates with centuries.—
ATTICUS.]